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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/942,733	08/31/2001	Genichi Matsuda	122.1469	8403

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EXAMINER

LAO, LUN YI

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2673

DATE MAILED: 09/10/2003

4

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

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Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/942,733

Applicant(s)

MATSUDA ET AL.

Examiner

Lao Y Lun

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-19 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-19 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on ____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 3.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other:

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Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this

Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Aroyan et al(6,163,313).

Aroyan et al teach a touch panel having a pair of panels(210, 200) each having a transparent conductive film(220, 205) adhered on a transparent board which are arranged via electrically insulating spacers(225)(see figure 5; column 10, lines 5-31 and column 11, lines 7-25). Aroyan et al teach the conductive film(220, 205) being divided into a plurality of regions of desired forms by channels(305a or 305b) formed by laser etching(see figure 6B, 6C; column 14, lines 53-68; column 15, lines 1-3; and column 20, lines 10-18).

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3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35

U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this

Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

4. Claim 14-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Jackson(4,931,782).

As to claims 14-16, Jackson teaches a touch panel having a pair of panels(32,56 or 32, 36) having conductive film(34, 58 or 34, 38) adhered on a transparent board(32, 56 or 32, 36) and double-faced tape(44 or 54) for sticking two pair of panels(32,56 or 32, 36) together(see figures 1-2, 6; column 6, lines 9-68; column 7, lines 1-16; column 8, lines 51-68 and column 9, lines 1-11).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

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6. Claims 1-4, 8-10 and 14-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nakaishi et al(5,844,175) in view of Aroyan et al(6,163,313).

As to claims 1-4, 8-10 and 14-16, Nakaishi et al teach a touch panel having a pair of panels(1, 2) each having a transparent conductive film(3a, 3b) adhered on a transparent board which are arranged via electrically insulating spacers(9)(see figure 1B; column 3, lines 47-68 and column 4, lines 1-21). Nakaishi et al teach the conductive film(1) being divided into a plurality of regions of desired forms by channels(see figures 1A and 6).

Nakaishi et al fail to disclose the channel is formed by laser etching. Aroyan et al teach the conductive film(220, 205) being divided into a plurality of regions of desired forms by channels(305a or 305b) formed by laser etching(see figure 6B, 6C; column 14, lines 53-68; column 15, lines 1-3; and column 20, lines 10-18). It would have been obvious to have modified Nakaishi et al with the teaching of Aroyan et al, because laser etching is accurate, speeding and controlling.

As to claims 2-4, Nakanishi et al teach a plurality of electrode circuits connected to different external conductive wires are provided on the conductive film(3b) which is divided into the same number of regions as the electrode circuits, and

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boundary lines are formed with narrow channels so that said plurality of electrode circuits are not short-circuited(see figures 1A and 6) .

As to claims 8-10 and 14-16, Nakaishi et al teach a double-faced tape(10)(see figures 1A, 1B, 4F, 7; column 1, lines 55-52; column 5, lines 1-3 and column 6, lines 17-19).

7. Claim 5 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Aroyan et al(6,163,313) of Hino et al(6,168,910) or Nakaishi et al(5,844,175) in view of Aroyan et al(6,163,313) in view of Hino et al(6,168,910).

Arovan et al or Nakaishi et al fail to point out the diameter of laser spot is 0.1mm to 2mm,

Hino et al teach the diameter of a laser spot for etching is about 0.1mm(see column 1, lines 26-36). It would have been obvious to have modified Aroyan et al or Nakaishi et al as modified with the teaching of Hino et al, since one ordinary skill in the art would find the best size(around 0.1 mm diameter) of a laser spot for achieving the best result of laser etching.

8. Claim 6 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Aroyan et al(6,163,313) in view of Sukenori et al(5,943,106) or Nakaishi et al(5,844,175) in view of Aroyan et al(6,163,313) and Sukenori et al(5,943,106).

Aroyan et al or Nakaishi et al as modified fail to point out wavelength of the laser light is 900nm or more.

Sukenori teaches the wavelength of a laser light for etching is more than 900nm (see figure 1 and column 6, lines 18-25). It would have been obvious to

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have modified Aroyan et al or Nakaishi et al as modified with the teaching of Sukenori since one ordinary skill in the art would find the suitable wavelength(e.g. around 900nm) of the laser light for achieving the best result of laser etching.

9. Claim 7 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Aroyan et al(6,163,313) in view of Yamagishi et al(5,349,155) or Nakaishi et al(5,844,175) in view of Aroyan et al(6,163,313) and Yamagishi et al(5,349,155).

Aroyan et al or Nakaishi et al as modified fail to point out pulse width of the laser light is 1ns.

Yamagishi et al teach the pulse width of a laser light for etching is 1ns(see figure 1 and column 3, lines 27-39). It would have been obvious to have modified Aroyan et al or Nakaishi et al as modified with the teaching of Yamagishi et al since one would select the best pulse width(about 1ns) to perform a laser etching function according to his/her experience to achieve the best result of laser etching and the pulse width of laser would be changed via the frequency of laser.

10. Claims 11-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nakaishi et al(5,844,175) in view of Aroyan et al(6,163,313) and JP 08-329767.

Nakaishi et al fail to point out the adhesive power ranging is from 5g-500g/25mm.

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JP 08-329767 teaches a touch panel having adhesive layer(21), whose adhesive power ranging is from 30-200g/25mm(see figure 1 and abstract). It would have been obvious to have modified Nakaishi et al with the teaching of JP 08-329767, since Nakanishi et al have disclosed a touch panel having an adhesive layer(10)(see figure 1A and column 5, lines 1-3) and the one of ordinary skill in the art would select the best adhesive power range from 30-200g/25mm for an adhesive layer to stick two panel together.

11. Claims 17-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nakaishi et al(5,844,175) in view of JP 08-329767.

As to claims 17-19, Nakaishi et al teach a double-faced adhesive layer(10)(see figures 1A, 1B, 4F, 7; column 1, lines 55-52; column 5, lines 1-3 and column 6, lines 17-19). Nakaishi et al fail to point out the adhesive power ranging is from 5g-500g/25mm.

See the discussion of JP 08-329767 on paragraph #9 above.

12. Claims 17-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Jackson(4,931,782) in view of JP 08-329767 .

As to claims 17-19, see the discussion of Jackson on paragraph #4 above. Jackson fails to point out the adhesive power ranging is from 5g-500g/25mm.

See the discussion of JP 08-329767 on paragraph #9 above.

Conclusion

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13. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Watanabe et al(5,530,209) teach a touch panel with a plurality of channels(see figures 7a-7c).

14. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Lun-yi, Lao whose telephone number is (703) 305-4873.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Bipin Shalwala, can be reached at (703) 305-4938.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

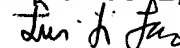
or faxed to:

(703) 872-9314 (for Technology Center 2600 only)

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA, Sixth Floor (Receptionist).

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Technology Center 2600 Customer Service Office whose telephone number is (703) 306-0377.

September 2, 2003


Lun-yi Lao
Primary Examiner